

# All In For Kansas Kids



## Strengthening Early Childhood in Kansas

**WEBINAR** JUNE 3, 2020



# WELCOME

- Our Tomorrows Update
- Strategic Plan
- State Agency Updates
- B-5 Preschool Development Grant – Renewal Grant Award
- Participant Discussion

**Webinar Agenda**



# DISCUSSION AND THOUGHTS

- How are you and/or your organization approaching the summer months?
- What is top of mind in thinking about transition back to school in fall?
- How are you getting information related to COVID-19 updates, resources for your organization or child care service, or just generally about what is happening in early childhood care and education? Where do you have discussions after receiving or hearing information?

**Participant Discussion**



# SHARE YOUR STORY

➤ **More than 440 stories shared!**

- Story Link: <https://ourtomorro.ws/KCCTF>
- Story can be about you and your family, or someone you know.

➤ **Primary themes of stories shared relate to:**

- Child care
- Lack of learning materials in the home to support learning continuity
- Unemployment/financial instability
- Social isolation
- Lack of technology

**Our Tomorrows**



# EARLY CHILDHOOD STRATEGIC PLAN

## ➤ **Goals** (with Strategies, Tactics, and Indicators of Success)

- State-Level Coordination
- Community-Level Coordination
- Family Knowledge and Choice
- Private Sector Collaboration
- Capacity and Access
- Workforce
- Quality and Environments

## ➤ **Available Online** - Children's Cabinet Website <https://kschildrenscabinet.org/strategic-plan/>

# Strategic Plan



# KANSAS DEPARTMENT FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

- **Kansas Quality Network** - <https://ksqualitynetwork.org/>
  - Resources for the advancement, support and recognition of continuous quality improvement efforts in child care in Kansas
- **Temporary stipends and grants to assist child care providers**
  - Supply grants to assist with pandemic related expenses like gloves, disinfectants, soap and other necessary items.
  - Stipends to help pay for ongoing expenses like food, supplies, labor and rent/mortgage.
  - APPLY HERE: <https://ks.childcareaware.org/heroreliefprogram/>
- **COMING SOON:** Revenue replacement subsidies for DCF-enrolled child care providers and Emergency worker support bonuses

State Agency Updates



<http://ksherorelief.com/>

# STATE INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COUNCIL

- **Annual Planning Meeting June 19th, 1-4pm**
- **Agenda will include:**
  - Group discussions to decide on the council's focus for next fiscal year
  - Schedule meetings for 2020-2021
  - Decide on sub-committees
  - Further planning for the LICC/ECC Annual Retreat for Spring 2021
- **Zoom link to join: <https://ksde.zoom.us/j/7723301648>**

**State Agency Updates**





# KANSAS CHILDREN'S CABINET AND TRUST FUND

- **Next Children's Cabinet Meeting** – Friday, June 5<sup>th</sup>
  - 9:00 am – 12:00 pm (*virtual via Zoom*)
  - Register to Attend: <https://kschildrenscabinet.org/cabinet-meetings-and-minutes/>
- **Early Childhood Stakeholder's Group Meeting** – Friday, June 5<sup>th</sup>
  - 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm (*virtual via Zoom*)
  - Open to any early childhood champion!
  - RSVP to receive a registration link by mailing Lindsay - [lindsayorion@ku.edu](mailto:lindsayorion@ku.edu)
- **B-5 Preschool Development Grant – \$8.9 million award.**
  - Children's Cabinet is the grantee

**State Agency Updates**





# B-5 PRESCHOOL DEVELOPMENT GRANT - RENEWAL

## ➤ Grant History and Logistics

- B-5 PDG One-Year Planning Grant – awarded to KSDE in late December 2018
  - Funded statewide Needs Assessment and Strategic Plan
- B-5 PDG Renewal Grant Application – submitted November 2019
- Kansas received formal notification of Renewal Grant award – April 2020
- Children's Cabinet is the grantee - \$8.9 million/year, renewable for 2 more years (*pending Congressional appropriation*)
  - Funding focused on systems-building and system-level infrastructure

**Systems Improvement**



# B-5 PRESCHOOL DEVELOPMENT GRANT - RENEWAL

## ➤ The Kansas Approach and Key Considerations

- Sustainability where we can.
- Emphasis on:
  - Supporting infrastructure (governance system, workforce, communities)
  - Flexible funding for communities to design what works on the local level.
- Address the most pressing concerns from the Needs Assessment
- Serve vulnerable and underserved populations.
- Align with Early Childhood Strategic Plan

**Systems Improvement**



# GRANT ACTIVITIES

- **Activity One: PDG B-5 Statewide Needs Assessment**
- **Activity Two: PDG B-5 Statewide Strategic Plan**
- **Activity Three: Maximizing Parent and Family Knowledge**
- **Activity Four: Sharing Best Practices and ECCE Workforce**
- **Activity Five: Improving the Overall Quality and Service Integration**
- **Activity Six: Monitoring, Evaluation and Data Use**

**Systems Improvement**



## ACTIVITY 3: MAXIMIZING PARENT AND FAMILY KNOWLEDGE

- **Summary:** Scale activities that result in connected families and connected communities, weaving Help Me Grow (HMG) core components into a systematic approach.
  - Improving Screening, Coordination and Navigation of Services
  - Meeting Needs of Families and Supporting Parent Engagement
- **Highlighted Activities:** 1-800-CHILDREN infrastructure, Bridges Pilot Project, parent leadership activities and stipends, support for Family Advisory Council, Kansas Care Coordinators, Integrated Referral and Intake System (IRIS) scaling, DCF Resource Agent Pilot Project

**Systems Improvement**



## ACTIVITY 4: SHARING BEST PRACTICES; ECCE WORKFORCE

- **Summary:** Remove recruitment and advancement barriers and raise public awareness about the role of ECCE professionals.
  - Align PD and establish core competencies and career pathways
  - Implement a workforce registry
  - Promote evidence-based trainings and effective transitions
- **Highlighted Activities:** Workforce Coordinator position, scale Links to Quality, build workforce registry, explore articulation agreements, establish core competencies and career pathways, align existing PD, Transition and Workforce Summits

**Systems Improvement**



## ACTIVITY 5: IMPROVING QUALITY AND SERVICE INTEGRATION

- **Summary:** Quality Sub-grants awarded to communities, addressing 4 issues affecting our vulnerable and underserved children:
  - Lack of high-quality infant-toddler child care
  - Rural ECCE infrastructure challenges
  - Geographic differences and community-level coordination
  - Kindergarten Readiness and Transitions
- **Highlighted Activities:** Quality Sub-grants, pilot common application process, technical assistance for applying for sub-grants

**Systems Improvement**



## ACTIVITY 6: MONITORING, EVALUATION AND DATA USE

- **Summary:** Establish a Kansas Early Childhood Integrated Data System (ECIDS) to ensure continuous quality improvement in early childhood programs.
  - Align, integrate and link data across our ECCE system to other sectors serving children and families.
- **Highlighted Activities:** Establish Data Trust Agreement that aligns ECIDS with workforce registry and establishes a culture of data-driven ethical decision-making.

**Systems Improvement**





# GRANT NEXT STEPS

- **Alignment with Strategic Plan Tactics and Priorities**
- **Establish Grant Implementation Support** (Cabinet positions, RFP development, etc.)
  - Early Childhood Workforce Coordinator
  - Early Childhood Coordinator (Recommendations Panel and Governance Efforts)
  - Early Childhood Specialist (general support across SP implementation)
- **Continuation from Planning Grant (ends 6/30/2020):**
  - 1-800-CHILDREN support
  - Links to Quality expansion
  - Screening Supports (Ages and Stages Questionnaire)

**Systems Improvement**



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**Participant Discussion**



# JUNE 5<sup>TH</sup> MEETING DISCUSSION TOPICS

- **Workforce Registry** – what are you hoping this looks like for Kansas? Key elements? Functionality? Areas of concern?
- **Child Care** – what barriers are preventing people from starting a home-based child care facility? What immediate steps do we need to take to sustain child care providers in the next 6 months?
- **Families** – what state laws/regulations/policies could be implemented or removed to increase access to services and supports (early childhood or beyond) for families? What populations (child care providers, pregnant women, fathers, foster parents, etc.) could benefit the most from peer support?

**Stakeholder Group Mtg.**



# CALENDAR – UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

- Children's Cabinet and Trust Fund Meeting – June 5<sup>th</sup> (9am)
- Early Childhood Stakeholder Group Meeting – June 5<sup>th</sup> (1:30pm)
- Sign up for weekly emails – [www.kschildrenscabinet.org](http://www.kschildrenscabinet.org)

**Systems Improvement**



# LISTENING

- Questions?
- Child Care Providers - Contact your local surveyor for health and safety guidance; contact your surveyor or R&R for additional needs (e.g., supplies, training, etc.).
- General Questions, Ideas, Concerns – <https://kschildrenscabinet.org/share/>





# Thank you!

[KSCCHILDRENSCABINET.ORG/SHARE](https://kschildrenscabinet.org/share)

Share Updates and Questions

